

**601.603-3 Appointment.**

(a) *General.* There is no contracting officer authority conferred upon any DOS employee by virtue of position. The Procurement Executive appoints all DOS contracting officers, in conformance with FAR 1.603-3, with the one exception as noted in paragraph (b) of this section. The contracting officer shall retain the original copy of the Standard Form 1402, Certificate of Appointment, signed by the Procurement Executive. Only qualified employees shall be appointed as contracting officers. A/OPE is responsible for providing guidance and oversight in managing such appointments.

(b) *Temporary warrants.* The Chief of Mission is delegated the authority by the Procurement Executive to issue temporary contracting officer warrants for periods up to 90 calendar days in order to cover emergency, post-specific operational requirements (e.g., staffing gaps, medical evacuations, extended leave, etc.). These temporary appointments shall be executed on the Standard Form 1402, and a copy shall be furnished to A/OPE. The warrant shall contain both a dollar limitation of no more than \$100,000 and a specific time period (not to exceed 90 days) during which the warrant is effective.

(c) *Non-Federal employees.* Only United States Government employees shall be appointed as contracting officers. For acquisitions at \$25,000 and below only, this includes locally employed staff (i.e., Foreign Service Nationals and Third Country nationals). Personal services contractors are not eligible for appointment as DOS contracting officers.

(d) *Personal services agreements.* Individuals who may sign personal services agreements (PSAs) are limited to the following:

- (1) The Human Resources Officer;
- (2) The Human Resources/Financial Management Officer; or,
- (3) The Management Officer or an American Foreign Service Officer designated to perform human resource functions.

[59 FR 66752, Dec. 28, 1994, as amended at 64 FR 43620, Aug. 11, 1999; 69 FR 19330, Apr. 13, 2004; 76 FR 30265, May 25, 2011]

**601.603-70 Delegations of authority.**

(a) *Delegations.* As stated in 601.603-3(a), there is no contracting officer authority conferred by virtue of position. Pursuant to 601.602-1(b), the Procurement Executive has designated the following as contracting activities as defined in FAR 2.101. These authorities are not redelegable. In addition, specific individuals are designated as heads of contracting activities (HCAs) (see FAR 2.101):

(1) *Overseas posts.* Each overseas post shall be regarded as a contracting activity to enter into and administer contracts for the expenditure of funds involved in the acquisition of supplies, equipment, publications, and services. The Principal Officer, the Management Officer, or the Supervisory General Services Officer are designated as HCAs; *provided*, that he/she has a contracting officer's warrant issued by the Procurement Executive. The Procurement Executive (or authorized A/OPE staff) may delegate to a contracting officer, on a case-by-case basis, the authority to award a contract or modification which exceeds the contracting officer's warrant level.

(i) No authority is delegated to enter into cost-reimbursement, fixed-price incentive, or fixed-price redeterminable contracts. Design/build solicitations and contracts may only be entered into with the written approval of A/OPE and OBO. Proposed construction contracts exceeding \$500,000 and any related architect-engineer contracts must have prior A/OPE approval.

(ii) When expressly authorized by a U.S. Government agency which does not have a contracting officer at the post, the officers named in paragraph (a)(1) introductory text of this section may enter into contracts for that agency. Use of this authority is subject to the statutory authority of that agency and any special contract terms or other requirements necessary for compliance with any conditions or limitations applicable to the funds of that agency. The agency's authorization shall cite the statute(s) and state any special contract terms or other requirements with which the acquisition so authorized must comply. In view of the contracting officer's responsibility

for the legal, technical, and administrative sufficiency of contracts, questions regarding the propriety of contracting actions that the post is required to take pursuant to this authority may be referred to the Department for resolution with the headquarters of the agency concerned.

(2) *Office of Logistics Management; Office of Acquisition Management (A/LM/AQM).* The authority to enter into and administer contracts for the expenditure of funds involved in the acquisition of supplies and services, including construction, is delegated to the Director or designee as the HCA.

(3) *Foreign Service Institute.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts pursuant to Chapter 7, Title I, of the Foreign Service Act of 1980, as amended (22 U.S.C. 4021 *et seq.*), is delegated to the Director of the Foreign Service Institute, the Executive Director, the Deputy Executive Director, and the Supervisory Contracting Officer as the HCA.

(4) *Office of Foreign Missions.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts pursuant to Title II of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, as amended (22 U.S.C. 4301 *et seq.*), is delegated to the Director, Office of Foreign Missions, and the Administrative Officer as the HCA.

(5) *U.S. Mission to the United Nations.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts pursuant to the United Nations Participation Act of 1945, as amended (22 U.S.C. 287), is delegated to the Counselor for Administration as the HCA.

(6) *Regional Procurement Support Offices.* The authority to enter into and administer contracts for the expenditure of funds involved in the acquisition of supplies, equipment, publications, and services on behalf of overseas posts is delegated to each Director, Regional Procurement Support Office (RPSO) as the HCA at the following locations:

- (i) RPSO Frankfurt in conjunction with Consulate General Frankfurt; and
- (ii) RPSO Florida in conjunction with the Florida Regional Center.

(b) *Other delegations.* Several DOS offices have been delegated limited procurement authority, although they have not been designated as HCAs.

Matters requiring HCA resolution are referred to the A/LM/AQM. These delegations are provided only to warranted contracting officers in the respective offices. They are as follows:

(1) *Office of Language Services.* The authority to enter into and administer simplified acquisition transactions under FAR Part 13 and orders against existing contracts up to the maximum ordering threshold or limitation for interpreting, translating, conference reporting, and related language support and escort services.

(2) *Office of Overseas Schools.* The authority to enter into and administer simplified acquisition transactions under FAR Part 13 and orders against existing contracts up to the maximum ordering threshold or limitation pursuant to section 29 of the State Department Basic Authorities Act of 1956, as amended.

(3) *Library.* The authority to enter into and administer simplified acquisition transactions under FAR Part 13 and orders against existing contracts up to the maximum ordering threshold or limitation pursuant to the provisions of the Public Printing and Documents Act of 1968, as amended, and for the acquisition of newspapers, books, maps, and periodicals.

(4) *Office of International Conferences.* The authority to enter into and administer simplified acquisition transactions under FAR Part 13 and orders against existing contracts up to the maximum ordering threshold or limitation pursuant to section 5, Title I, of the Department of State Basic Authorities Act of 1956, as amended.

(5) *Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs.* The authority to enter into and administer simplified acquisition transactions under FAR Part 13, orders against existing contracts up to the maximum ordering threshold or limitation and personal services contracts pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended; and, 48 CFR Chapter 7, Agency for International Development Acquisition Regulation, including any amendments thereto. These authorities extend to any acquisition performed by any Department of State contracting activity on behalf of INL.

(6) *Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization*. The authority to enter into and administer 8(a) purchase orders and contracts as a third party pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Small Business Administration.

(7) *Bureau of Administration, Office of Operations*. The authority to enter into and administer simplified acquisition transactions for emergency or contingency operations necessary to protect life or federal property. This authority is limited to cases when a contracting officer in the Office of Acquisitions Management is unavailable.

[59 FR 66752, Dec. 28, 1994, as amended at 60 FR 39662, Aug. 3, 1995; 64 FR 43620, Aug. 11, 1999; 69 FR 19330, Apr. 13, 2004; 71 FR 34839, June 16, 2006; 72 FR 45695, Aug. 15, 2007]

## PART 602—DEFINITIONS OF WORDS AND TERMS

### Subpart 602.1—Definitions

Sec.

602.101 Definitions.

602.101–70 DOSAR definitions.

AUTHORITY: 40 U.S.C. 486(c); 22 U.S.C. 2658.

SOURCE: 53 FR 26162, July 11, 1988, unless otherwise noted.

### Subpart 602.1—Definitions

#### 602.101 Definitions.

#### 602.101–70 DOSAR definitions.

For the purposes of the DOSAR, unless otherwise indicated, the following terms have the meanings set forth in this subpart.

*Chief of Mission* means the principal officer in charge of a diplomatic mission of the United States or of a United States office abroad which is designated by the Secretary of State as diplomatic in nature, including any individual assigned under section 502(c) of the Foreign Service Act of 1980 (Public Law 96–465) to be temporarily in charge of such a mission or office.

*Consolidated Receiving Point* or *CRP*; means the contractor under contract to a Despatch Agency to receive and prepare items for shipment to a post. The CRP receives, records, consolidates, and packs items for shipment

overseas under the direction of the Despatch Agency.

*Department* or *DOS* means the Department of State, including all of its activities wherever located.

*Despatch Agency* means the office responsible for the transportation of supplies between the U.S. and posts within its specific geographic area as assigned by the Office of Logistics Operations. There are six Despatch Agencies, one each in Iselin, New Jersey; Baltimore, Maryland; Miami, Florida; Seattle, Washington; Brownsville, Texas; and the European Logistical Support Office in Antwerp, Belgium.

*Government* means the Government of the United States of America unless specifically stated otherwise.

*Major system* has the same definition as described in FAR 2.101; however, the Department of State's dollar threshold as defined in paragraph (2) is \$30 million. The Under Secretary for Management is the head of the agency for the purposes of paragraph (3).

*Overseas post* means a “post” located outside the United States of America.

*Post* means a diplomatic or consular mission of the United States of America, administered or managed by the DOS.

[53 FR 26163, July 11, 1988, as amended at 59 FR 66753, Dec. 28, 1994; 60 FR 39662, Aug. 3, 1995; 64 FR 43620, Aug. 11, 1999; 69 FR 19330, Apr. 13, 2004; 72 FR 45695, Aug. 15, 2007]

## PART 603—IMPROPER BUSINESS PRACTICES AND PERSONAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

### Subpart 603.1—Safeguards

Sec.

603.104 Procurement integrity.

603.104–4 Disclosure, protection, and marking of contractor bid or proposal information and source selection information.

603.104–7 Violations or possible violations.

### Subpart 603.2—Contractor Gratuities to Government Personnel

603.204 Treatment of violations.